

TEXTBOOKS OF  
ORNAMENTAL  
DESIGN.

THE  
ANATOMY  
OF  
PATTERN

*Lewis F Day*











TEXT BOOKS OF ORNAMENTAL DESIGN.

By LEWIS F. DAY.

I.

THE ANATOMY OF PATTERN.

LEWIS F. DAY'S

TEXT BOOKS OF ORNAMENTAL DESIGN.

Price Three-and-Sixpence each, Crown 8vo, bound in Cloth.

SOME PRINCIPLES OF EVERY-DAY ART :

INTRODUCTORY CHAPTERS ON THE ARTS NOT FINE.

Second Edition. In great part re-written from 'Every-Day Art,' containing nearly all the original Illustrations and some new ones ; forming a Prefatory Volume to the Series.

---

THE ANATOMY OF PATTERN.

Third Edition and sixth thousand, revised.

With Thirty-five full-page Illustrations.

THE PLANNING OF ORNAMENT.

Third Edition and fifth thousand, revised.

With Forty-one full-page Illustrations.

Many of them re-drawn for this Edition.

THE APPLICATION OF ORNAMENT.

Second Edition, revised.

With Forty-two full-page Illustrations.

---

Thick Crown 8vo, Cloth Gilt. Price 12s. 6d.

NATURE IN ORNAMENT.

With a Hundred and Twenty-three Plates, and a Hundred and Ninety-two Illustrations in the text.

TEXT BOOKS OF ORNAMENTAL DESIGN.

THE  
ANATOMY OF PATTERN.

BY

LEWIS F. DAY,

AUTHOR OF 'SOME PRINCIPLES OF EVERY-DAY ART,'  
'THE PLANNING OF ORNAMENT,' 'THE APPLICATION  
OF ORNAMENT,' 'NATURE IN ORNAMENT,' ETC.

THIRD EDITION, REVISED (SIXTH THOUSAND),  
WITH THIRTY-FIVE FULL PAGE ILLUSTRATIONS.

LONDON:

B. T. BATSFORD, 94 HIGH HOLBORN.

1894.



THE GETTY CENTER  
LIBRARY

## PREFACE TO THE THIRD EDITION.

There is not much more to say by way of preface to a third edition than has been said already on the publication of the first and second—much less indeed; for when a book reaches its fifth thousand it may be supposed to justify itself, and to stand no longer in need of excuse.

It can do no harm, however, to state once more the aim of these Text books of Ornamental Design.

Throughout the series I have assumed no particular knowledge on the part of the student, but only that he is a student, that he wants to know, and that what he wants to know is what I would have liked some one to tell me when I was a beginner.

No pains of mine, of course, will save him the pains of study; but it would be hard if a man's experience during a quarter of a century could benefit none but himself; and here, in as few words as possible, is the sum of my experience—for what that may be worth at second hand.

13 Mecklenburg Square, London, W.C.

March 13th, 1892.





## TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	PAGE
I.—INTRODUCTORY .. .. .	I
II.—PATTERN DISSECTION .. .. .	8
III.—PRACTICAL PATTERN PLANNING .. .. .	25
IV.—THE “DROP” PATTERN .. .. .	34
V.—SKELETON PLANS .. .. .	40
VI.—APPROPRIATE PATTERN .. .. .	48



## DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF PLATES.

- I. THE CONSTRUCTION OF GOTHIC TRACERY PATTERNS—  
Showing the square, diamond, hexagon, circular, or  
other plan on which elaborate tracery is built.
2. THE SQUARE—Checks and other diapers built on cross-  
lines.
3. THE LATTICE AND THE DIAMOND—Plaids, zigzags,  
&c., built on cross-lines.
4. FRETS, &c.—Showing their construction on a network  
of cross-lines.
5. ALL-OVER PATTERN—Showing the cross-lines upon  
which it is planned.
6. THE TRIANGLE—Diapers of star, hexagon, and lozenge  
shapes, built up on the lines of the equilateral triangle,
7. THE TRIANGLE—Diapers composed of the equilateral  
triangle and its compounds.
8. THE HEXAGON—Honeycomb and other diapers based  
upon the hexagon and its compound.
9. THE OCTAGON—Simple octagon diapers and the lines  
of their construction.
10. ARAB LATTICE PATTERN—Dissected, and their anatomy  
laid bare.
11. CURVILINEAR PATTERNS—Showing the construction  
of the wave, the ogee, the net, &c.



12. DIAPERS OF CIRCLES—With lines showing the points from which they are struck.
13. OTHER CIRCULAR DIAPER FORMS—Produced by intersecting circles.
14. FREE JAPANESE DIAPER—The repetition of geometric forms not geometrically disposed.
15. THE SCALE PATTERN—Together with ogee, cusped, and other shapes derived from it.
16. A STAR PATTERN—Showing six different ways of arriving at a simple diaper.
17. ITALIAN DAMASK—Showing its construction upon the lines of the scale pattern.
18. HENRI II. BOOK COVER—Showing result of reversing, and again reversing, the pattern.
19. SOME PATTERN PLANS—Showing (A) the square plan, (B) the dropped parallelogram plan.
20. SICILIAN SILK—With the cross lines on which the design is built, and the diagonal lines it assumes.
21. TAPESTRY OF THE XVTH CENTURY—With the rectangular unit of repeat, in which the pattern is turned over, after the manner of the weaver.
22. LATE-GOTHIC VELVET—Showing horizontal effect of pattern constructed upon the lines of the ogee or hexagon.
23. WALL-PAPER PATTERN—Showing ogee lines on which it is planned.
24. A DROP-PATTERN—In which the construction is not at first apparent.

25. MAP—Showing three plans, on either of which the same simple pattern may be produced.
26. VARIOUS DROP-PATTERNS—Showing the effect of the drop according to its length, &c.
27. DIAGONAL DAMASK PATTERN—Showing its construction on the diamond, which is not apparent.
- 27A. DIAGRAM—How to prove a drop design.
28. ARAB TILE AND LATTICE PATTERNS—Showing the simple means by which intricacy is produced.
29. DESIGN—Exemplifying the intentional confusion of forms.
30. WALL-PAPER DESIGN—Showing a “drop” in the ornamental scroll, whilst the grotesque creatures introduced follow the lines of the square block.
31. PERSIAN TEXTILE—Showing the lines of the double square on which the pattern is constructed, as distinct from the lines it takes.
32. FOLIATED SCROLL—A design made on square lines, yet assuming an ogee shape.
33. ITALIAN SILK—Showing ogee, hexagon, or diamond plan.
34. SET PATTERN—Explanatory of economy in weaving.
35. DAMASK—On the plan of waved upright lines, crossed by horizontal bands of rosettes.





# THE ANATOMY OF PATTERN.

## I.

### INTRODUCTORY.

The dictionary scarcely helps us to a definition of the word pattern, in the somewhat technical sense in which it is used by the designer.

Inasmuch as a pattern signifies a "specimen," one might argue that repetition is implied in ornamental pattern. But inasmuch as any "shape or model for imitation" is quite as strictly speaking a pattern, one cannot exactly define pattern as repeating ornament.

Nevertheless, pattern mostly comes of repetition. Many a pattern bears on the very face of it the evidence that it grew directly out of the necessity of repetition.

It is more than probable that some mechanical necessity gave rise to all geometric

pattern ; certainly it is impossible to plait, net, knit, weave, or otherwise mechanically make, without producing pattern. It may be infinitesimally small, as in weaving, where the warp and weft are often invisible to the naked eye ; but it is there ; and all that remains for us to do is, to efface it as far as we can, or to make the best of it.

Out of the determination to make the best of it has grown much of the most beautiful pattern-work. To neglect this source of inspiration, therefore, to say nothing of the attempt to suppress it, would seem to be wasteful of opportunity to the very last degree.

So certainly will the repetition of parts result in some sort of pattern, that one may say, wherever there is ordered repetition there is pattern. Take any form you please, and repeat it at regular intervals, and you have, whether you want it or no, a pattern, as surely as the recurrence of sounds will produce rhythm or cadence.

The distribution of the parts need not even be regular. The wave marks on the sand, the veins of marble, the grain of wood, the crystallisation of the breath upon the window-

panes, the curls of the hair, the very features of the human face—resolve themselves into pattern. So distinctly is this last the case, that the ornamentist finds himself continually devising, *malgré lui*, patterns that remind one of faces. There is even room for speculation whether it may not have been with a view to escaping this danger, or anticipating it rather, that the designer first took to the deliberate use of those masks and grotesque heads, which form so prominent a feature in certain styles of ornament.

The popular idea of the process of ornamental design is, that the artist has only to let his hand crawl over a piece of paper, and, like a spider, spin out the fancies that may crowd his fertile imagination. Indeed, there is scope in design for all his fancy ; but he is no Zeus, that ornament should spring, Athena-like, full-grown from his brain.

Ornament is constructed, patiently (I will not say laboriously, for the artist loves the labour), patiently built up on lines inevitable to its consistency—lines so simple, that to the expert it is not difficult to lay bare its very skeleton ; and just as the physiologist divides the animal world, according to anatomy, into

families and classes, so the ornamentist is able to classify all pattern-work according to its structure. Like the scientist, he is able even to show the affinity between groups to all first appearances dissimilar ; and, indeed, to point out how few are the varieties of skeleton upon which all this variety of effect is framed.

Before enumerating those varieties, let us suppose for a moment a man to imagine (and this is by no means an imaginary case) that he will make to himself a repeating pattern without regard to its logical construction—as though in his domain there should be no skeletons. That would be, from my point of view, a profoundly foolish thing to do ; but, more than that, it is impossible. He may design a unit in which there is no repetition, and no formality ; but the moment he repeats that unit, the very order of its repetition proves to be, if I may call it so, the cupboard in which the skeleton will be found.

It might be imagined that by designing in some such haphazard fashion as I have just supposed, the artist would secure to his design a freedom of line, an absence of formality, not readily to be obtained by adopting the more systematic method. But this is not by any

means so. If, indeed, the design be of that absolute uniformity all over, that there is no one feature in it more pronounced than another, it may pass muster, notwithstanding the want of backbone. But that is not to claim much for it as a design. And it is scarcely worth the pains to take a round-about way to this insignificant end.

If, on the other hand, a design be above the level of insignificance, there must be in it some dominant feature or features, which, when many times repeated, will appear more prominent than ever. It is to these features that the eye will irresistibly be drawn; and it is the lines they take in relation one to another, which will assert themselves. It is hardly to be expected that, if these lines have never been taken into consideration, they should come out very satisfactorily—and, as a matter of experience, they always come out awry. Every one must have suffered more or less from wall-paper and other patterns, in which certain ill-defined but awkward stripes impressed themselves upon him; and he may have imagined possibly, if he thought about it, that this effect of stripes came of working upon the vertical, horizontal, or diagonal



lines, which thus asserted themselves. It was much more likely, the result of not working upon definite lines at all. A designer who knew the A B C of his business, would make sure of lines not in themselves offensive; he would counteract a tendency to stripes in one direction by features directing the attention otherwards; and he would so clothe any doubtful line that there would be no fear of its unduly asserting itself, as in its nakedness it might. He foresees the danger (it is a danger even to the most experienced) and he is fore-armed against it. The mighty man of valour who disdains to be trammelled by principles, or any such encumbrance, is without defence against contingencies practically certain to arrive. It is only by a miracle, or a fluke, that he can escape failure. The overwhelming odds are, that the petty considerations he has despised will be quite enough to wreck any venture he has dared in defiance of them.

Since, then, it is practically inevitable that there shall be definite lines in ornamental design—seeing that if you don't arrange for them they arrange themselves—it is the merest common sense to lay down those lines to begin

with, and, in fact, to make them the skeleton or framework upon which you build up your pattern.

You will see, when they are laid bare for you, that these skeletons are after all very few.

## II.

## PATTERN DISSECTION.

Repeated pattern may be classified according to its structure, I said.

First in order of obviousness comes *the stripe*. It comes also very early in order of invention: the loom must from the beginning have suggested the stripe-pattern, which practically grows out of it.

The stripe, however, carries us only a very short distance in the direction of design. For as soon as you make any break in the repeated line, the recurrence of that break gives other lines in the cross direction.

Suppose a series of horizontal bands broken at equal intervals by a series of rosettes. It is clear, that if the rosettes fall one under the other, they give upright lines; or if they are shifted you get diagonal cross lines. If the line itself is broken, as in the case of a series of waved lines, or, still more plainly, in a

series of vandykes, the turn of the wave, or the point of the zigzag, when it is repeated, gives the cross line just the same.

And so we come at once to the vast order of patterns constructed upon *cross lines*.

This is probably quite the first in point of time, arising as it inevitably does out of the very primitive art of plaiting. You have only to interweave strips of two different colours, and you get at once a *check*, or what is familiar to us in black and white as the chess-board pattern. (Plate 2.)

Suppose the interwoven strips to be all of one colour, then *the lines of intersection* would make a *lattice* or basket-work pattern.

The simplest form of check or lattice is when the crossing is at equal intervals and at right angles. Vary the interval, and you have all manner of plaids and tartans. Alter your point of view (or turn the design 45 degrees round) and you get the diamond. The difference in point of view makes no real difference in plan: a stripe may take any direction, yet it is always a stripe. But if we alter the angle at which the lines cross, we get not only a fresh variety of shapes, but we obtain also a diamond shape

which, for the sake of clearness, I will call *the* diamond. This plays a very important part in the next order of patterns, at which, however, we have not yet arrived. Various plaids, diamond patterns, and other developments of the lattice are exemplified in Plate 3.

In the case of a regular network of cross-lines there is no particular reason why they should always be filled in alternately *à la* chess-board. They may just as well be grouped in twos, threes, fives, and so on, resolving themselves into patterns of great variety and even of intricacy, as may be seen in Plate 2.

This theory, however, must not be pressed too hard, or you may squeeze something very like a false idea out of it. It might be contended that all patterns are formed on the square, or all patterns, at least, that can be woven, the threads forming the squares on which the design is laid. This is obviously absurd. The only patterns which can fairly be described as built on the square are those in which the artist (consciously or not) worked upon square lines. The actual squares apparent in a coarsely-woven scroll, or in the old-fashioned sampler, belong, not

to the pattern, but to its translation into a textile fabric.

If instead of the chess-board we take the *lines* of the lattice, and work upon them, we get, without departing from those lines (only intermitting them) a wonderful range of interlacements and the like ; some of them of exceeding intricacy, as in the case of the "*fret*." A number of these are shown on Plate 4. There seems no limit to the ever-increasing range of pattern-work thus disclosed, all built upon the same constructional scaffolding.

From the intermission of the lines results a kind of spot pattern, more or less free, which might be mistaken for a distinct order of design. But it is only a variety.

In a certain sense it matters little whether a design is constructed on geometric lines, or only arranged so that it falls within them. The skeleton, when you come to dissect the two, is the same in either case. Our theory of construction, therefore, applies quite as much to sprigs, spots, and all so-called free patterns, as to those in which the constructional lines actually occur as lines. You have not done away with construction when you have succeeded in keeping the scaffolding out of

sight. Again, the use of the broken line instead of the straight, or of the curved (which we shall have to consider more particularly further on), makes no difference except in effect. The skeleton is the same, though you show no lines at all, as in the "all over" pattern on Plate 5, which is planned on the parallelogram given by lattice lines.

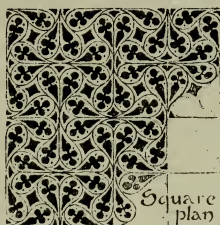
So far we have had to do only with the simplest of all possible schemes, in which at most two series of lines intersect one another. The introduction of a third series of cross lines constitutes a new departure, and a most important one.

Cross the square lattice by a series of diagonal lines bisecting the right angles—cutting the squares in half, that is to say—and we have a new form to work upon, the *triangle*.

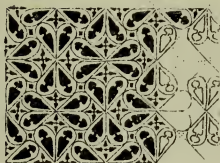
If instead of the square lattice, one starts with a lattice of diamond shape, a third series of cross lines bisecting the angles of the diamond produces equally a diaper of triangles.

And if the diamonds of the lattice be of a certain proportion—if, that is to say, the two sharp angles be together equal to one of the blunter angles, you have only to bisect





Square  
plan



Diamond plan  
(squares set  
angle-wise)



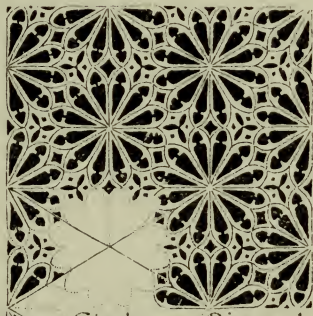
Circles on  
square Plan



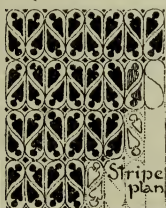
Hexagon plan



Reversed "Scale" or  
"Ogee" Plan



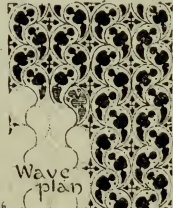
Circles on Diamond  
Plan



Stripe  
plan

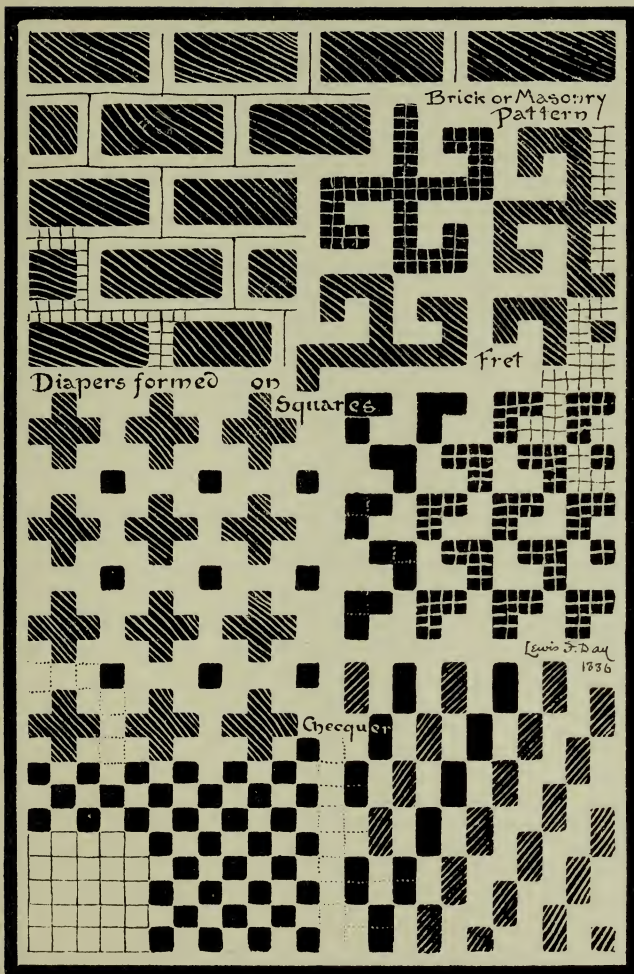
# Construction of German Gothic Tracery Patterns

Louis F. Day 1886

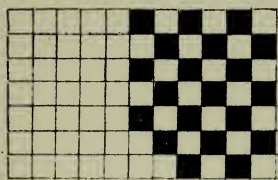


Wave  
plan

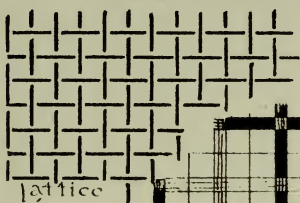




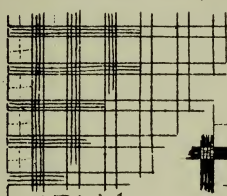




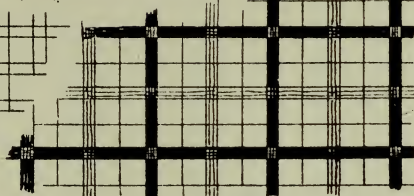
Cross lines Chess board



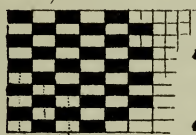
lattice



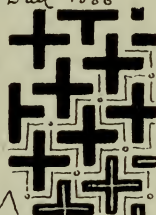
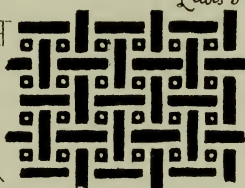
Plaids



Lewis F. Day 1886



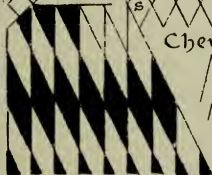
Plaiting



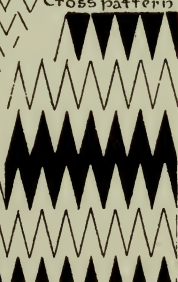
Cross pattern



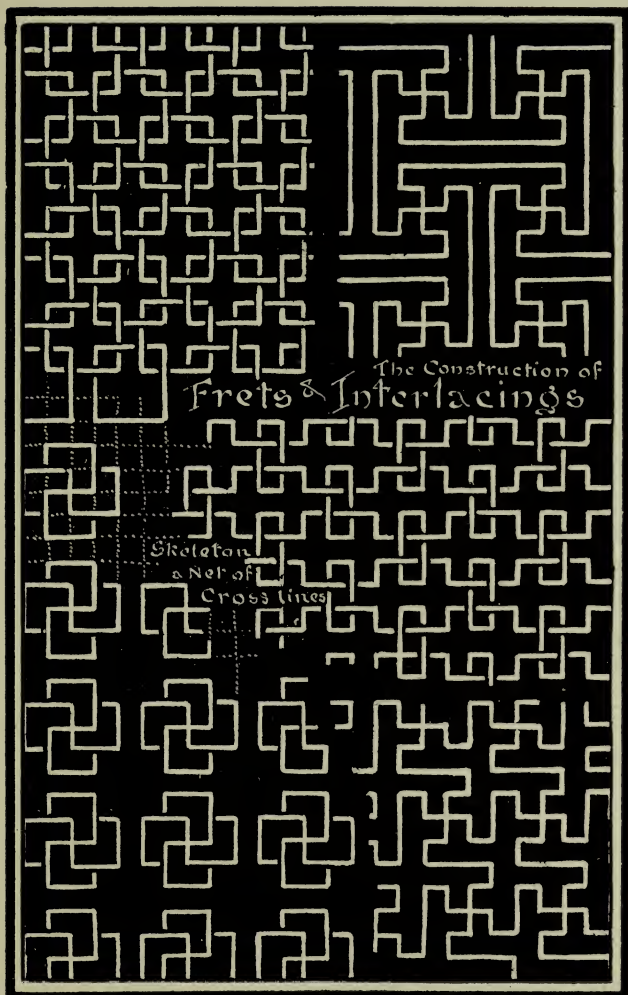
Diamonds



Chevron or Zig-zag





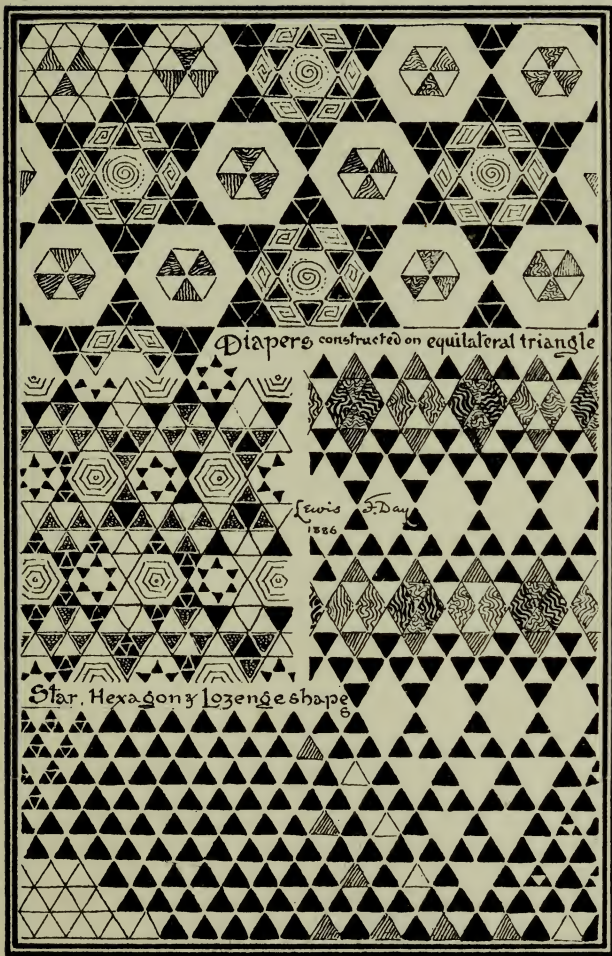










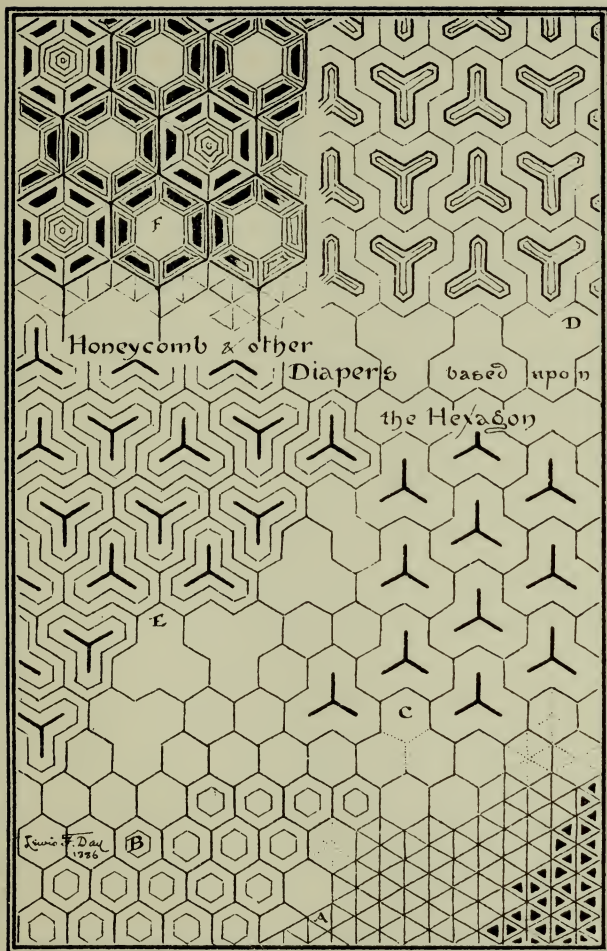
















the blunt angle of the diamonds by this third series of cross lines to arrive at the *equilateral* triangle, which of all triangles is far away the most useful in design.

By merely grouping the equilateral triangles, as in Plate 6, we get the hexagon (a group of six triangles), the star (a group of twelve), and other shapes, such as that on Plate 7, which is made up of seven triangles (i. e. three diamonds and a triangle); or that on Plate 8, which is composed of eighteen triangles (i. e. three hexagons.)

A glance at the three Plates 6, 7, 8, will show how immensely the designer's scope is now widened.

We have already the basis of all that infinity of geometric pattern which we find in Byzantine mosaic, and in the Moresque tile-work derived from it.

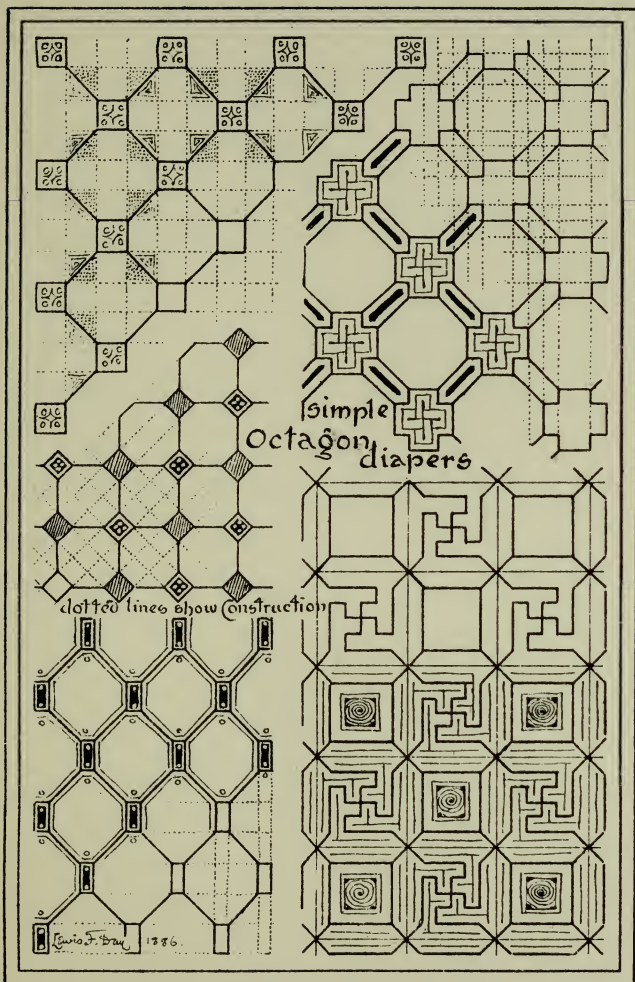
It will be seen that the hexagon, the star, and other compound shapes, themselves form exactly-fitting diapers.

By the use of a fourth series of cross lines another new shape is evolved. Returning once again to the square lattice, if we cross it diagonally *both ways*, cross it by itself, that is, so that each square is cut up into

four, we get out of those lines the *octagon* (Plate 9); but not an equal-sided octagon; that is, built on a cross lattice of different proportions.

The octagon, however, is not a unit which will of itself form a diaper, as the hexagon will. It is only in connection with a square, diamond, or other four-sided figure, that it will "repeat." Place side by side a series of octagons, and there will appear four-sided gaps between (Plate 9). Nevertheless, this new series of lines gives us new varieties of radiated pattern: witness once more the elaborate interlacings of the Arabs; all of which, even the most magnificent, are closely related to the pattern so familiar in the seat of a common cane-bottomed chair.

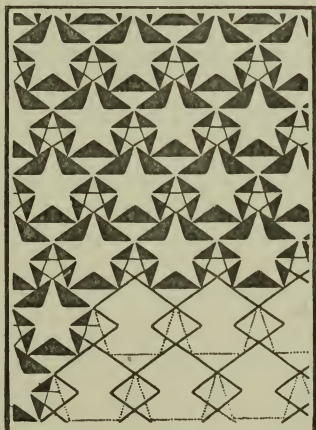
It is possible to carry the principle of *radiation* further still. You may, for example, cross this more elaborate lattice by a lattice like itself; but you get by that means rather intricacy than variety—especially when the intersecting lines are in part interrupted. In certain Arab patterns, where this ultra-elaboration of lines is employed, it appears almost as if a new principle had been introduced (Plate 10); but upon analysis the designs





resolve themselves into the elements with which we have already had to deal—so few are the plans upon which pattern is constructed. Already we have come to the end of the straight-lined family.

Why, it may be asked, can you not make a diaper on other lines, on the lines of the pentagon for example? Well, you may put together so many pentagons—and a very respectable diaper they form—especially if you further enrich the pentagons with five-pointed stars. Not long since I came upon just such a diaper, which, for a moment, promised to upset all my neatly arranged theories on the subject of pattern anatomy.



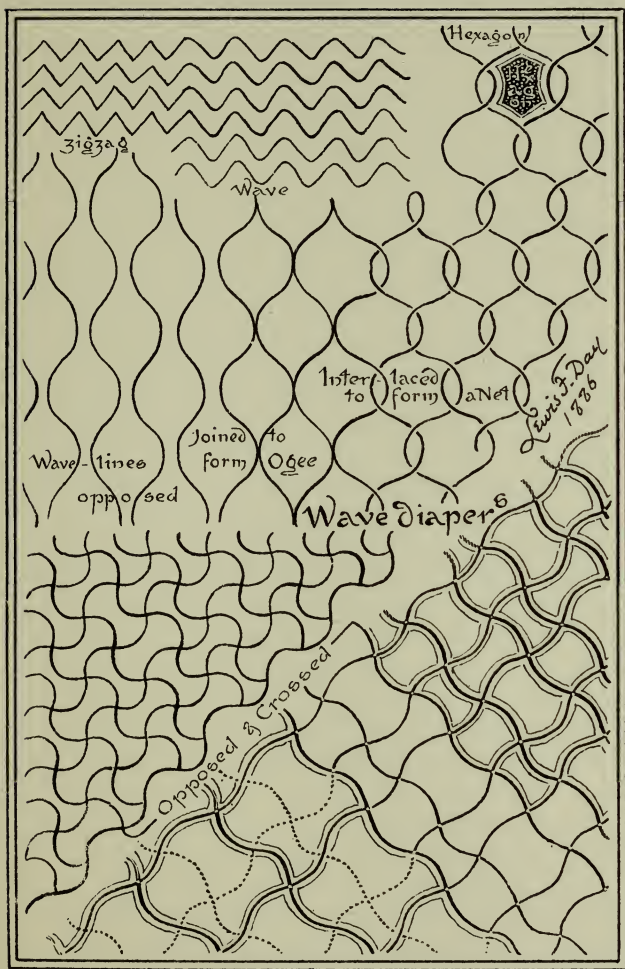
Pentagon diaper and its skeleton.

However, I had only to dissect it, to discover that it was our old friend the diamond in disguise ; but so artfully made up as at first sight to deceive. There it is. It consists of

pentagons put side by side, the interstices between them ingeniously filled with stars and triangles, much as the pentagons themselves are filled—so that one does not readily distinguish the main divisions. It wants no telling that shapes of any kind may be put together to form a pattern ; but that does not alter the fact that the *lines* on which they are arranged, or into which they fall, must be those I have already laid down ; which are indeed the base of all possible pattern.

For further variety in design, we must resort to the use of the *circle*. The circle itself has, indeed, to be arranged on one or other of the foregoing plans. It must be struck, that is to say, from centres corresponding to the points of intersection of lines, such as have already been described. In so far it is only one of the innumerable arbitrary shapes that may be so arranged. But the circle is so important a feature in itself, it so entirely alters the scope of geometric pattern, that it deserves to be considered apart. One cannot lightly pass over the element of curvilinear design in ornament.

Whether or not the idea of flowing patterns originated in the circle, is of no great conse-







quence. Instinctive practice must have preceded geometric principles in the mind of man.

One may very easily deduce many of the common curvilinear patterns directly from *angular* motives. (Plate II.)

The wave, for example, is a zigzag just blunted at the points. Soften the lines of the hexagon, and you have the ogee. Interlace straight rods, and you get waved lines, as may be seen in the perspective view of the common hurdle. Round the corners of the hexagon or octagon, and you arrive at a rude circle. The relation of the hexagon or octagon diaper to the diaper of circles is obvious. Presumably, the busy bee, if one may suggest such a thing without irreverence, only works in a circle ; and the hexagonal form of the cells of the honeycomb is simply the result of gravitation ; just as you find that cylinders crowded crush themselves into hexagonal prisms.

Geometric shapes offer themselves to us from the first—stars in the heaven above and in the grass below, circles in the sun's disc and in the eye of the daisy. For all we know, the very first pattern ever traced by

human hand may have consisted of circles. The primeval artist had only to pick up the nearest dry twig and indent the damp earth with the end of it, to get a series of round impressions which would pass for a very respectable diaper. I do not say that was so. I only mean to say that the ways in which patterns can be formed are of the simplest; and that they practically force themselves upon the workman—making him, as it were, an artist in spite of himself.

The circle, with its segment the curve, and its compound the spiral, assumes extreme importance when we come to the consideration of the scroll (with which just now we are not concerned); but it will be seen that even in mere diapers it leads to an apparently new order of things.

The simplest form of circle diaper is when the circles are arranged on the *square* or the *diamond* plan, and so as to touch at the edges. By the intersection of the circles one by another, an effect of much greater elaboration is at once obtained: and it makes all the difference whether you determine the proportions of the circle according to the intersections of the lines on which they are struck

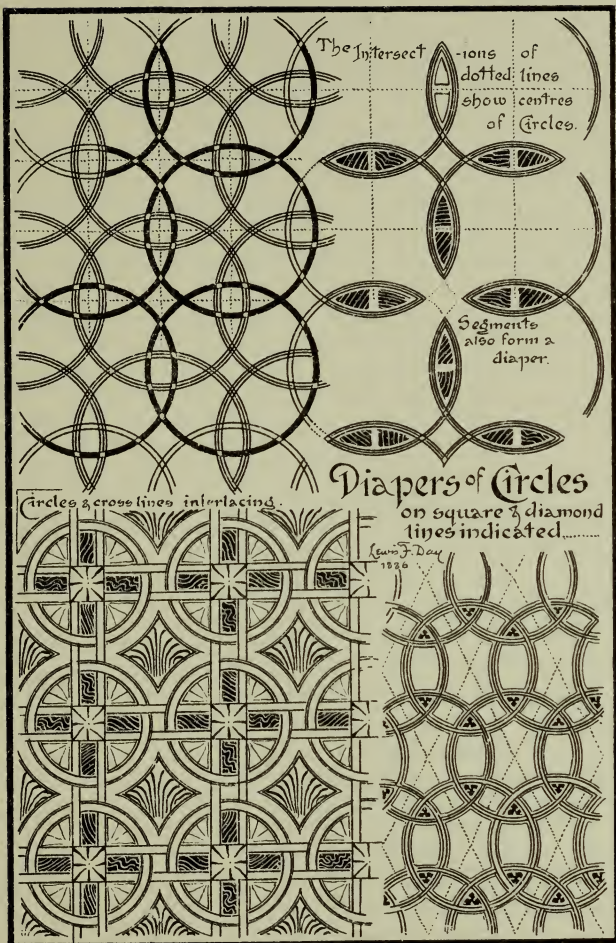
The Intersections of dotted lines show centres of Circles.

Segments also form a diaper.

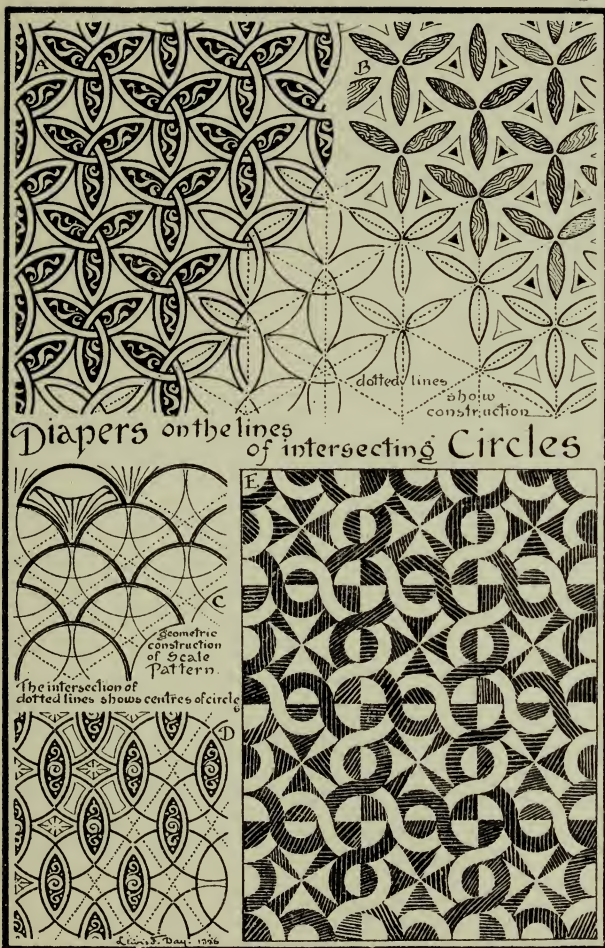
Diapers of Circles on square & diamond lines indicated.....

Levin F. Day  
1896

Circles & cross lines interlacing.

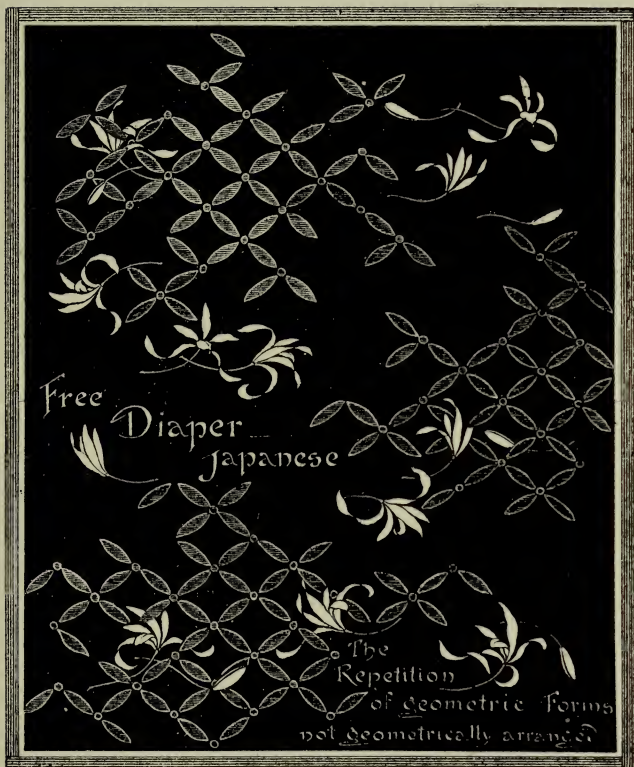
















(as in Plate 12) or not (as on the upper part of Plate 13).

Out of the circle, or its segments, we get the trefoil, the quatrefoil, and all manner of cusped shapes (Plate 15)—which also must needs be put together on one or other of the plans already set forth.

Further, out of the segments of the circle you can construct the scale pattern; which (as you may see on Plate 15) might equally have been derived from the scales of a fish or the plumage of a bird's neck. The scale may also be considered as a translation of the diamond into curved lines. Re-arrange the scales and you have a more graceful, as well as a more complicated, diaper (same plate)—in which appears the ogee shape, once before referred to as being a curvilinear modification of the hexagon.

The hexagon itself may be deduced from it. Suppose a network of interlacing wave lines or ogee shapes—it amounts to the same thing—and the result is a series of six-sided figures (Plate 11), very nearly approaching the straight-lined hexagon.

In this way the straight-lined series might be derived from the curved; and so once more,

by a very different road, we reach always, in this maze of pattern-work, the same point, which is, the limited variety of skeleton on which pattern is built.

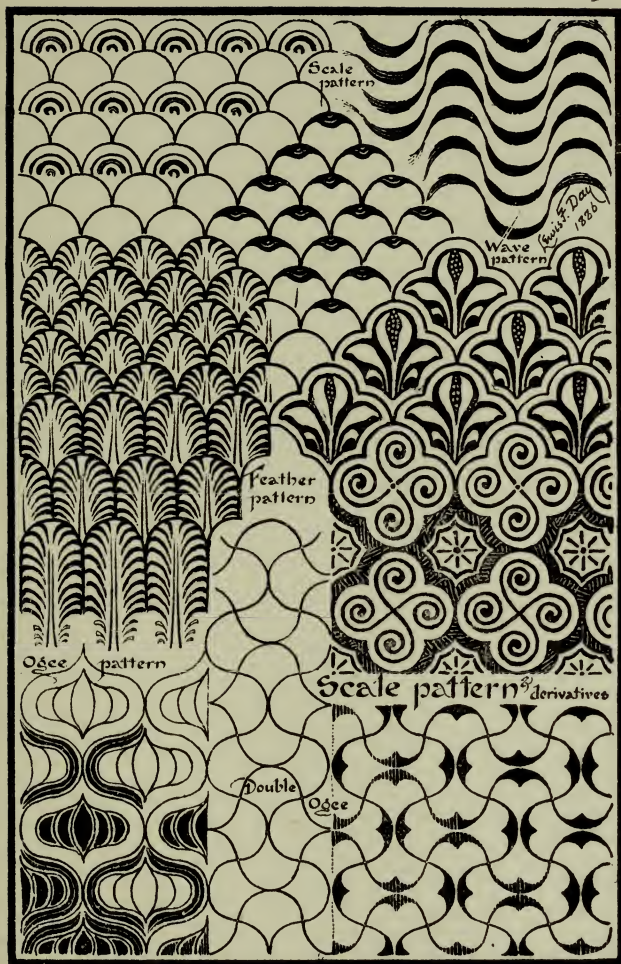
From the combination of straight lines with curved (Plates 12 and 13) result all manner of new diaper forms ; which, however, present nothing very new in the way of skeleton.



You might start a scroll pattern, such as that given in Plate 17 (a type common in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries), on the lines either of the hexagon or of the ogee, or of a mixture of curved and straight lines which I may call the broken ogee ; and in the end it would not be very clear which of them you had taken for a groundwork ; or even whether you had not founded your design upon the diamond—such close

kindred do those various skeletons betray.

I have dwelt at some length upon rudimentary diaper forms, for reasons quite apart from anything intrinsically interesting or beautiful in them, although they may be both the one and the other. More especially is this likely if tender colours be employed to soften





the forms, or if the colour variations do not quite follow the pattern, as in the case of marble inlay, where the accidental colour of the material is a relief from the geometric monotony of the shapes. The Japanese sometimes go so far as to interrupt the pattern, wiping out a bit of it here and there, anticipating, indeed, the softening effect that age might impart to it. (Plate 14.)

But it is more as a *basis of design* that we have at present to consider geometric forms. The basis of all repeated patterns is, as I said, geometric. And, this being so, it is as essential that the designer should be acquainted with simple geometric principles, as it is that a figure draughtsman should have some knowledge of superficial anatomy.

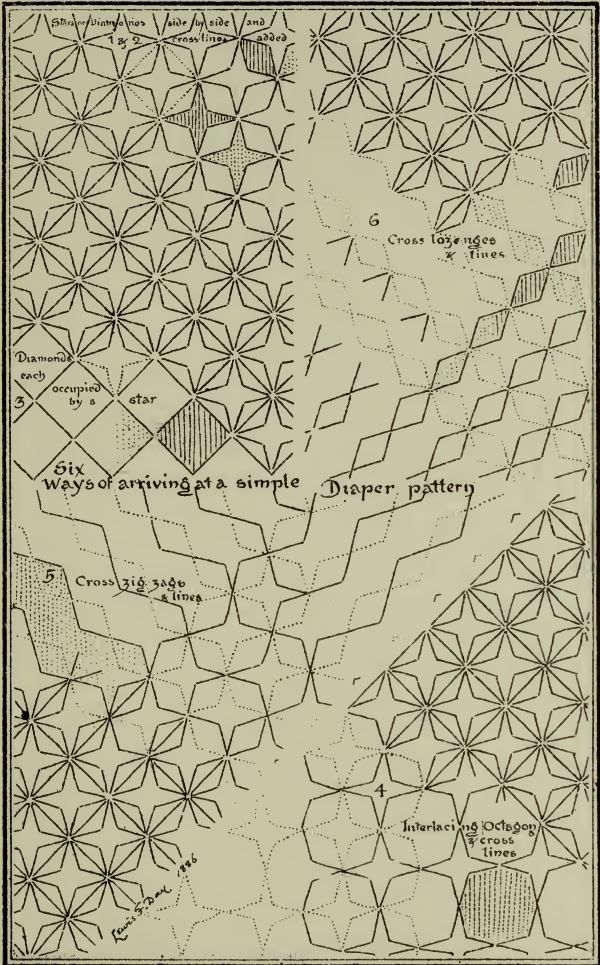
For all the simplicity of the skeleton lines he has to deal with, the pattern designer's art is not such a simple thing as you might suppose. He has not merely to invent pretty patterns, but patterns that can be conveniently worked—and the lines mapped out for him by the conditions of his work, are, in most instances, not just those which beauty would have decreed.

They prove, however, to be identical with

the lines already shown to be the basis of all recurring pattern-work ; and so we begin to see that, had there been no such thing as pattern design before, and no traditional forms of design for us to follow, those very forms must have been evolved as certainly out of the more complex conditions of modern manufacture as they were out of the simple contrivances of primitive handicraft. That is to say, that the lines first given to us by the primary processes of netting, plaiting, and so on, would equally have been prescribed by the printing roller or the power loom.

It is one of the most interesting points in the analysis of pattern design to see how regularly we work round, again and again, to identically the same shapes. You cannot safely dogmatise as to the origin of this or that pattern ; there are always so many ways in which it might have been suggested. Put side by side a series of waved lines so that their curves are opposed (Plate 11) and the effect is exactly the same as though you had opened out an ogee diaper ; you can deduce either pattern from the other. Or, again (same plate), if the ogees interlace, it is impossible to say whether this was the outcome of the







ogee, or of waved lines, or simply of the process of netting.

On Plate 16 are shown six different ways in which one and the same simple star pattern may be arrived at.

1. By the juxtaposition of stars and the addition of cross-lines.

2. By the juxtaposition of diamonds and the addition of cross-lines.

3. By the juxtaposition of right-angled diamonds, each occupied by a star.

4. By the interlacing of two series of octagons, and the addition of cross-lines.

5. By the crossing of two series of zigzag lines, and the addition of cross-lines.

6. By the crossing of two series of diamonds or lozenges, and the addition of cross-lines.

And this does not by any means exhaust the number of ways in which the same result might have been reached.

To take another instance, of a very different kind, you know how common it is to see a waved line with leaves alternating on each side of it. This appears on the face of it, a quite mechanical and arbitrary arrangement; but you have only to note how, in nature, the alternate leaves on a slender stem, pull

it out of the straight, to see the natural and inevitable origin of the idea. By merely exaggerating the slight wave of the natural stem, you get one of the most conventional of ornamental border patterns.

So it would seem that, whether you begin with mechanical construction or with nature, it works round to the same thing in the end—in the hands of an ornamentist.





### III.

#### PRACTICAL PATTERN PLANNING.

Pattern design is very seriously affected by this circumstance—that the possible lines of construction are not in all cases practicable.

In practical design for manufacture the limitations are strict ; and it is only by submission to them that success in ornamental design is possible. Nor is it only the style or character of the design that is affected, but its plan also.

The Oriental mind, delighting in geometric intricacy, has availed itself largely of the triangular unit, and has built up with it all manner of delightfully elaborate patterns. The modern European finds it more convenient to him to adopt the simpler parallelogram. He may now and then use hexagonal or other many-sided tiles, but he prefers the square. So also the weaver's cards are inevitably in the shape of parallelograms, and the printer's blocks, too ; and



though the printer make use of the roller instead of the block, the conditions of design remain unaltered; for the roller is, for all practical purposes of design, only a block bent round in the shape of a cylinder.

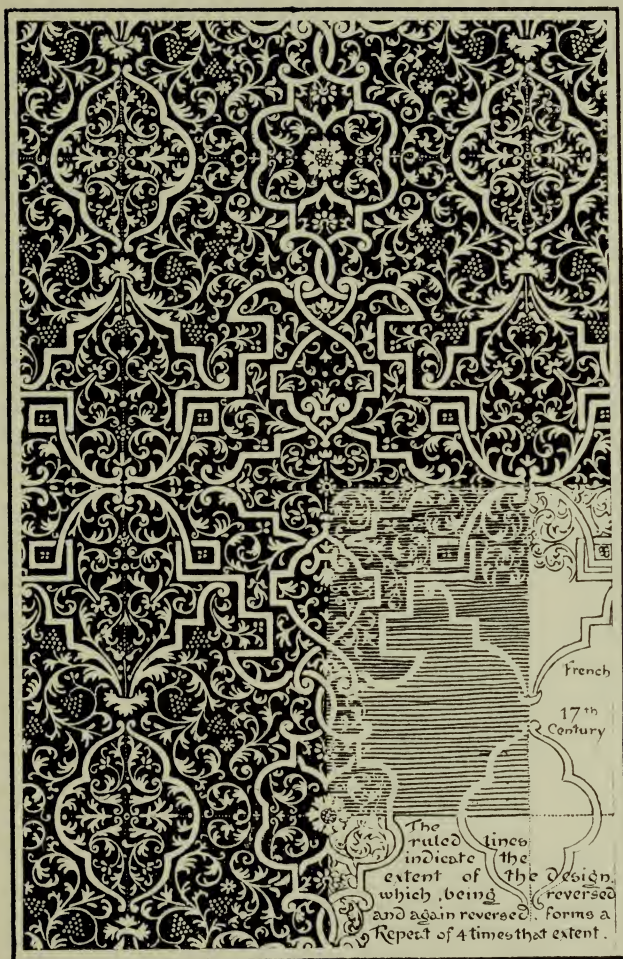
Even the bookbinder of earlier days, who was comparatively free to do what he liked in the way of "tooling," was led, whether by instinct or by his tools, to adopt a rectangular repeat, as in Plate 18; in which also is exemplified what may be done in the way of reversing, and again reversing, the unit of design—so as with comparatively little drawing to produce the effect of an extensive pattern.

We have, ordinarily, to reconsider the possible lines of pattern construction in their relation to the rectangular figure, that being the repeat determined for us by the conditions of nearly all modern manufacture.

The base of our operations is, then, usually a parallelogram.

Furthermore, this parallelogram is in all cases restricted in size, and in most cases of more or less arbitrary proportions.

For example—in the case of wall-paper printing, it is practically determined for us





that the printer's block shall be rectangular. Custom has further fixed its width at 21 inches. And, since a block of greater length than that would be unwieldy, we are restricted to a square of 21 inches by 21 inches.

The block may represent a fraction only of the design, which can theoretically be made up of as many blocks as you please. But in practice the expense of such a proceeding would make the paper-hangings cost more than paper-hangings are ordinarily worth; and, apart from commercial considerations, which would be enough to prevent that kind of extravagance, it is contrary to craftsmanship so to misapply labour. The most capable artist is he who can apply his art to most purpose, and get full value out of his materials.

As a matter of fact, the wall-paper designer has to content himself, then, except in very few instances, with a repeat of at most 21 inches square.

Within those limits he is comparatively free; but, as I have already shown, do what he will, his repeated pattern *will* fall into geometric lines, if only those of the parallelogram on which it is built. A pattern, such as

A, on Plate 19, may seem at first sight to conform to no conditions of restraint ; but the actual lines of the repeat reveal themselves, on closer inspection, in any single feature whose recurrence is to be traced. It is based, you will find, upon the parallelogram.

Apart from the conditions of actual manufacture it is found commercially expedient to adopt certain fixed dimensions for the tile, block, roller, or whatever it may be—and we are thus constrained to design tiles (if they are to be of any use) on the usual three-, six-, eight-inch or other accepted scale ; textiles to a width fixed by the loom, and a length controlled by the consideration of economy ; block-printed fabrics under very similar conditions ; and roller-printed to a length as well as a width prescribed. The proportion of the parallelogram within which our design must be confined varies, that is to say, with the manufacture for which we are designing. An experienced designer could often tell, from its proportion and scale alone, for what particular manufacture a design was made. And it is in the impracticability of his ideas that the novice most infallibly betrays his lack of experience.









There is no occasion to enter more fully into all the various technical reasons for the limitations to which the designer is subject. The practical convenience of them, however, is patent. It is as desirable that the architect, for example, should know what sized tiles may be available, as that he should be able to reckon upon the "bond" of his brickwork ; and it is equally clear that without some uniformity in the width of materials (such as silks, velvets, carpets, chintzes, and so on), it would be difficult to estimate, off-hand, the relative cost of each.

As it is, the public is not seldom misled in that way. The difference between 18 and 21 inches in width, is not so apparent to the eye that the purchaser of a French wall-paper need realise, when he selects it, that it is actually nearly seventeen per cent. dearer than an English paper nominally at the same price ! Something very like a swindle is perpetrated when facts of this kind are deliberately kept from the buyer. There is a further fraud in withholding from him the information that certain foreign goods sold *by the piece* are only about three-quarters of the length of English goods competing with them.

To return to the subject—the upshot of it is, that the designer has habitually to shape his design according to a rectangular plan, and that of limited, if not fixed, dimensions.

It becomes, then, a very serious question with him how far he can avail himself of any other basis.

The student might with advantage set himself to tabulate the possibilities in the way of adapting the various units of repeat to repetition, within the square. It would then be seen that, though all things are possible, there are schemes the artist would like to adopt, which, in order to be brought into the repeat permitted, would need to be worked out upon so small a scale as to become quite too insignificant for use.

One instance of this it may be worth while to give.

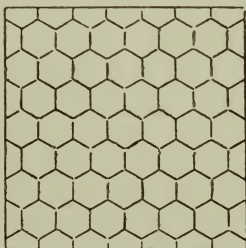
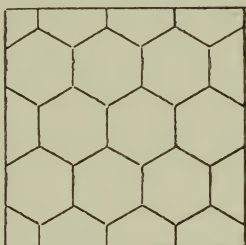
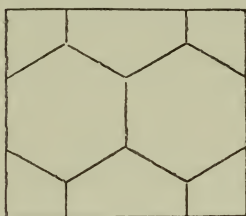
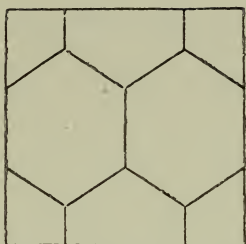
Suppose a square block of 21 inches, and you wish to adapt a hexagonal design to it. Only those who have tried the experiment have any notion how small the hexagons would come. If you made your hexagons  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide, so as to get two in width, they would not come true in the length; they would be too long. If you made





them true, they would not fill the square, but only a space of 21 inches by about 18. Three and a half hexagons in the width would work, but only as a "drop" pattern: that would give hexagons of six inches across. In order to occupy the square with true hexagons repeating without a "drop," they would need to be reduced to half that size; that is to say, there would have to be seven hexagons to the width, measuring each only three inches across.

It will be seen at once, in this instance, how very strictly the artist is bound by considerations which scarcely occur to the



←scale 21 inches→

uninitiated, considerations which have always had a great deal to do with the design of pattern-work. Fashion has had her say in the matter, too, no doubt—it is a wicked way she has ; but though certain lines have been generally adopted at certain periods and in certain countries, I think it will invariably be found that there was some technical or practical reason for their adoption in the first instance.

Out of the conditions of weaving came, for example, the adoption of upright patterns and cross colouring (as in the silks of Byzantine, Sicilian, and early Italian design), as well as the turning over of the design on the two sides of an upright stem, or purely imaginary central line ; examples of which are shown in Plates 20 and 21, the one taken from an old Sicilian silk, the other from a coarse woollen fabric of the 15th century.

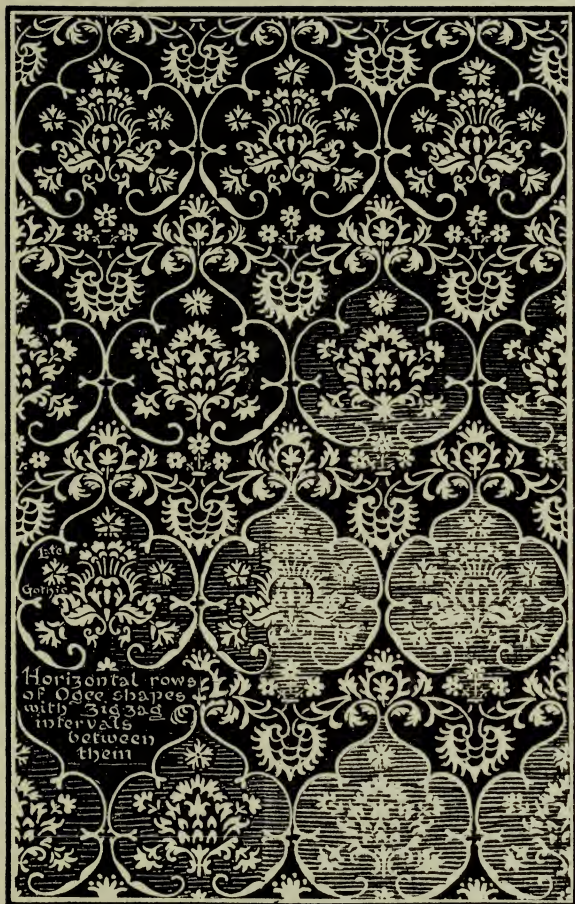
In Plate 22 may further be seen what great influence material may exercise upon pattern. There was a whole class of patterns of this kind schemed in the 15th and 16th centuries, with the obvious purpose of disturbing as little as possible of the













rich pile of the velvet for which they were designed.\*

The turning over of the pattern is essentially a weaver's device. In a pattern similarly planned for *printing* there is no occasion for that same rigid symmetry of the two sides. On the contrary, it is desirable rather to introduce some variations, such as occur in the design on Plate 23.

\* See 'The Application of Ornament,' page 44.

## IV.

## THE "DROP" PATTERN.

The most useful skeleton to work upon, all things considered, is the diamond. For it is on the basis of the diamond that "drop" patterns are most readily designed.

The "drop" is a device by means of which the designer is enabled, without reducing the scale of his work, to minimise the danger of unforeseen horizontal stripes in his design, a danger which is imminent when the repeats occur always side by side on the same level.

The printer's block, we will say, is a square ; or the roller is its equivalent ; or the cards take that form. In the printed or woven strip, whether paper, cretonne, silk, or what not, the end of one repeat must tally with the beginning of the next, in order that the pattern may be continuous throughout the piece. Equally of course the design must be so schemed that the right side of one







piece of the stuff will fit on to the left of another, and so on.

But it is clear that the design may be so contrived that each succeeding breadth has to be *dropped* in the hanging.

If this drop were only very slight—say three inches—it would take seven breadths, in a pattern of 21 inches deep, before a given feature in the design occurred again exactly on the same level. There would be no danger then of any *horizontal* tendency in the marked lines recurring features of the design might take, but, on the other hand, great likelihood of a *diagonal* line developing itself, with even more unfortunate effect. The design would seem, rather, to step downwards; and the shorter the steps, the more noticeable would be the line such features might take. This difficulty is avoided if you make the "drop" just one-half the depth of the pattern, so that every alternate strip is hung on the same level. Then the diagonal lines correct themselves. If any line at all asserts itself, it is more likely a zigzag (instead of a step), which, in connection with corresponding zigzags above and below, may very possibly form a trellis or lozenge pattern.

There is good reason, therefore, for saying the diamond is a useful plan to work on; for upon it is formed the safest variety of drop pattern—that, namely, which drops one-half its depth.

Instances of drop patterns are given in Plates 17, 19, B, 24, 29, 33, and others.

One has heard persons, more familiar with the forms of ornament than expert in practical design, complain of the difficulty they experience in scheming a “drop.” If they would only think of the problem as the filling of a diamond shape, it would come very easily to them.

There is this further advantage in adopting the lines of the diamond—that it affords an opportunity of working out a design which is apparently twice the width of the material.

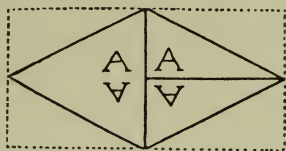
If you subdivide a block of 21 inches thus, so that the two smaller divisions A and V together equal the larger division  $\frac{A}{V}$ , it amounts to precisely the same thing as though you designed upon the basis of a squat diamond 21 inches high by 42 inches wide. You have only to







transpose the component triangles to produce the squat diamond. If, therefore, you design your pattern within the lines of the squat diamond, 21 in. by 42 in., you will find that it can be printed



on a material 21 in. wide from a square block measuring 21 inches each way.

The advantage gained in this way is, of course, only apparent—what is put into one strip is taken out of the other—but in the case of pattern appearance goes a long way. From the practical point of view, it is difficult to over-estimate the value of this expedient in design, the common property of designers for all manner of fabrics, but undreamt-of in the philosophy of the amateur.

Theoretically, it is all the same whether you design a drop on the lines of the square, on the slant, or on the diamond, you may arrive in either case at identically the same result. This is plainly shown in Plate 25, in which the dotted portions of the ground will explain how the same pattern might be built on either one of three plans. You might snip pieces from the four corners of the square

and make with them the diamond ; or, if you disposed them differently, you might produce the oblique shape ; which last would amount to the same thing as though you had cut off only two corners and transposed them (Diagram page 45).

Nevertheless, it makes practically all the difference in the world which plan you adopt. Your design must be influenced to a very considerable degree by the shape you set yourself to fill. It would never occur to you, for instance, to stretch a festoon, or wreath, across a width of space you did not see before you. So it may be fairly said, that such extension of the design beyond the width of the material, is the direct result of working on the lines of the diamond : whilst you are designing within the lines of the square, you have naturally no impulse to go beyond its limits.

In designing for tiles and such like, where the material is not continuous, the conditions are somewhat different, and the possibilities accordingly. Where the unit of design can conveniently be turned round, or half-way round, or three-quarters of the way, the scope of the designer is increased—in four









repeats of a six-inch tile he can get, for example, a design which includes a circle 12 inches in diameter. So again, the book-binder, with a comparatively limited set of tools, has very considerable scope in design ; but even then the lines he can work upon are always the same—although more of them may be open to him than to another.



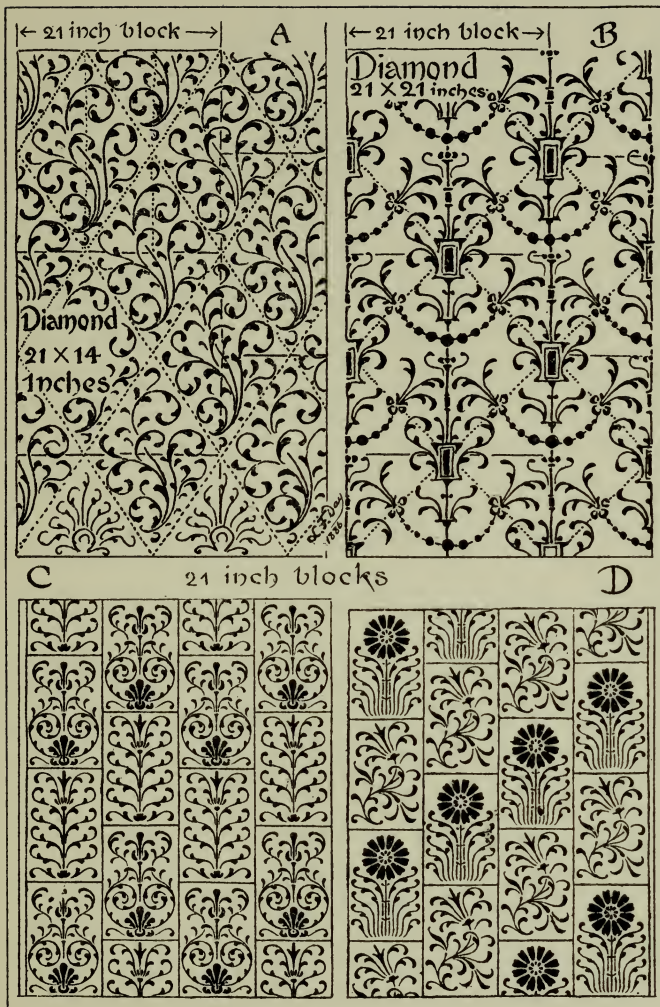
## V.

## SKELETON PLANS.

The designer finds it ordinarily more convenient to design at once upon the diamond lines, because their simplicity enables him better to keep in view the effect of his pattern in its repeated form than any other lines (there are others) on which the "drop" can be worked. <sup>1</sup>

Even though one may have no intention of taking advantage of the full width of a block, it may still be found convenient to design within the diamond, if only in order to economise design: and, mind you, economy is an absolute necessity of the case. But for economic reasons there would be no weaving, printing, stamping, and so on; we should confine ourselves to embroidery, tapestry, painting, and other work of our own hands.

If you begin by dividing the width of 21 inches into two, and make your pattern a "drop," 21 inches long by  $10\frac{1}{2}$  wide, it is the same as though you had worked upon a

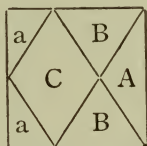




diamond 21 inches from point to point, as may be seen at B in Plate 26 ; although, as I said before, the same pattern would probably not have suggested itself to you in either case. Designing on the diamond such a pattern as the last-mentioned might very likely occur to one ; on the lines of the dropped parallelogram, more likely such a one as B on Plate 19.

Again, if you divide the width of 21 inches into three (A, Plate 26) and on those lines set out a diamond pattern 21 inches long by 14 inches wide, so that the block contains one unit and a half in the width, this will work as a drop, to fall one-half its depth.

It is clear that the half diamond on the one side of the block (A) and the two quarter diamonds on the other side (a a) must together form a complete unit, and the two half diamonds (B B) another, or the block would not work. With that proviso, the diamonds need not all be filled alike—that is to say, the three diamonds (A B C) comprised in the repeat may be variously filled.



If you still divide your 21 inches into three

and institute a series of stripes or panels of seven inches wide, each of which drops at the same interval (whatever it may be), it is likely to result in a diagonal stripe more or less pronounced; which might, of course, equally have been designed upon diagonal lines. (D, Plate 26.)

If of the three stripes only one were dropped, the design would also hang as a drop, revealing very likely a zigzag line on the principle already laid down. (C, Plate 26.)

Further explanation of the ways in which a given space may be subdivided (what is said of the supposed 21 inches applies equally to any given parallelogram) would be superfluous. Enough has been said to show how by such subdivision the utmost variety of scale may be obtained.

Although, however you start, you come back always to the same few schemes; and although in any case your pattern might, as I said, equally have been designed upon other lines, working on those lines it never would have occurred to you.

The diagonal stripe pattern on Plate 27 resolves itself into a diamond repeat, but it is tolerably certain that the designer did not work



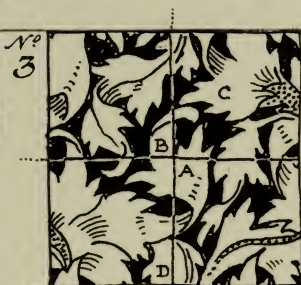




Plate 27<sup>a</sup>



*Diagram  
showing how to prove  
a Design.*





upon the lines of that diamond, but probably upon a network of diagonal and horizontal cross-lines—as did also the inventor of Plate 20.

The inevitable influence on your design of the lines upon which you start, is the excuse, and the only excuse, for puzzling over all the various skeletons upon which pattern can be laid out.

It is a good test of your design, when you have roughed it out on one plan, to make the finished drawing on another. By that means you see it, as it were, from two points of view, and can form a very fair idea as to how it repeats, without drawing much of the repeat.

The practical designer (who has learnt not to attach great value to the appearance of his design as a drawing) often cuts it up deliberately, and re-arranges the parts, in order the better to prove his repeat. The use of this expedient is shown in Plate 27*a*. Fig. 1 gives a pattern as the designer might sketch it—and not much more of it than is enough to show the lines it will take in repetition.

But, as I said, the simpler way of proving it would be to cut up the repeat (the square with black background in diagram No. 1) and re-arrange its parts.

This has been partially done in Fig. 2, in which the design has been cut horizontally into two equal parts A B and C D ; and, by the transposing of these two halves, what were the upper and lower edges are brought together, showing plainly how this portion of the design will appear in completion.

The joining of the side edges is tested in Fig. 3. Here the drawing has once more been cut in two, vertically this time. And, since this is a drop pattern, it is not merely the two halves that have to be transposed ; but, whilst parts B and D remain relatively to each other in the same position as in Fig. 2, parts A and C are reversed in order (A C becomes C A).

The remaining Figure, 4, supposes us to have left parts A and C in the same position relatively to one another, as in Fig. 2, and to have re-arranged (on the same principle as before) parts B and D (B D becoming D B). The four quarters of the design have thus been shuffled and dealt out in every practicable manner, and each portion of it in turn promoted to the position most in view.

In the case of a pattern which did not drop, the proving would have been, of course,









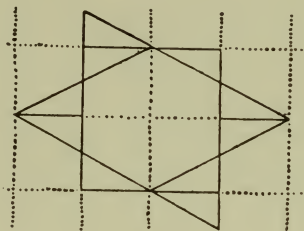


"PHOTO-TINT", by James Akerman, London, W.C.



a yet simpler matter. Obviously, too, the operation of cutting up might be (and in practice would be) performed at a comparatively early stage in the designing, so that the various joints might in turn be tested and adjusted before the details of the intermediate spaces were finally determined.

The way in which the parts of the diamond may be re-arranged, in like manner, is sufficiently indicated by the accompanying diagram.



But the best of all possible tests is to cut ever so rude a stencil of the broad masses of the design, so as easily to multiply it to any extent. A child can be taught to apply that test for you; and it is infallible.

Whatever the lines of the skeleton, in any important work they are usually disguised.

Sometimes (as often in Arab art) they are so crossed and interlaced that it is difficult to follow their intricacy. The really quite

simple patterns on Plates 1, 10, and 28 are at first sight very puzzling.

Again, the lines may be interrupted so that you lose the thread of the design. Or, further, two or more schemes of ornament may be, so to speak, interwoven, the one asserting itself here, the other there, so that neither thread of idea is too conspicuous. The effect of this is to be seen in Plate 29, a drop pattern, in which the attention is diverted from the formal lines of the scroll by a conventional growth of much freer character over-running it.

Furthermore, features may be introduced of such importance in the design that the eye is drawn to them, and fails to perceive the connecting lines between.

In Plate 30 the strongly marked bird-forms counteract to some extent the simple ogee or diamond lines on which the pattern is set out. In fact, the birds emphasise the actual repeat of the block, just as the scroll reveals the real construction of the design; and out of the two contrasting schemes arises a certain confusion, which is of some artistic account in design.

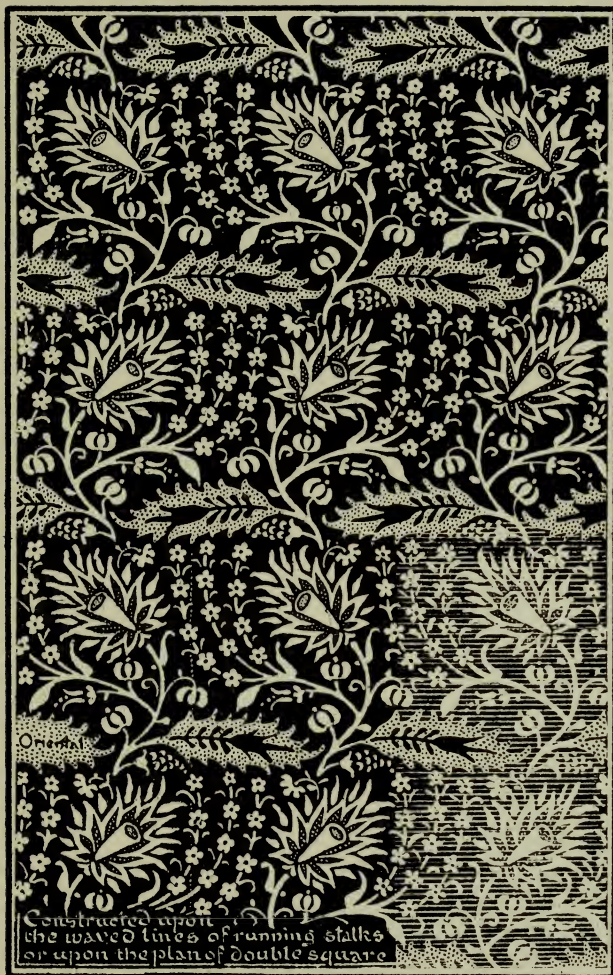
Obviously, however, the most effective way of disguising the skeleton is to clothe it, as

















nature does ; and the most natural way of doing this is, with something in the nature of foliation ; beneath which the bare constructional lines are as little noticeable as the stiff branches of a tree under their burden of leaf and blossom. (Plates 31, 32, &c.)

By this means, you get at once life, interest, and variety so great, that one might continue this already lengthy explanation until it became tedious,—and yet, perhaps, fail to make the sceptic quite believe in the absolute simplicity of the skeleton forms underlying all pattern.

The foliated scroll, as you see it, for example, in Roman or Renaissance Arabesque (or even in Plate 32), looks almost as though it were impossible of geometric construction. And, of course, it never is mathematically built up. But, for all that, it falls into the familiar lines. The spiral itself is only a series of segments of circles ; and if you dissect any repeated scroll-pattern, you will find most likely that its back-bone is a wave line or spiral. Certainly you will find it has a back-bone. Pattern is a vertebrate thing ; and in a scroll the spinal cord is very decidedly pronounced. You can soon see when a scroll is broken-backed.

## VI.

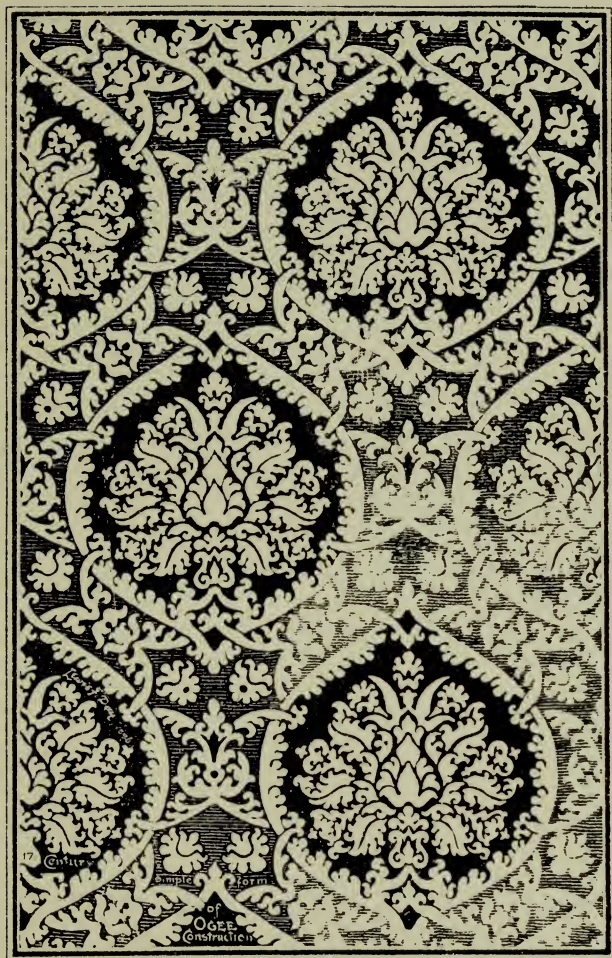
## APPROPRIATE PATTERN.

It is only by experience that a designer learns to know what may, and what may not, be done within given lines. Many a notion which one had a thought of adopting, turns out to be practically quite unamenable to existing conditions.

You cannot have a bold, flowing scroll without considerable allowance in the way of length in the blocks, cards, or whatever may be the mechanical contrivance used ; nor can you well avoid a certain upright tendency in patterns where the width is very much restricted. The fact of the matter is, the characteristic lines of time-honoured patterns are mainly the direct result of the restrictions under which the craftsman was working.

It is owing to the facility with which triangular cubes or tiles can be arranged in patterns, that the peculiarly geometric character of much













Oriental ornament is due. So also with us, the proportions of the square tile have resulted in a distinctly characteristic form of ornament.

I do not pretend to say whether the turning over of the design which prevails in early silks, was suggested by the fact that such turning over could be so readily done in weaving ; but it looks, at all events, as though the Sicilians, and, in fact, weavers generally, until comparatively recent times, adopted that plan of design, because by means of it they could without more ado double the scale of their pattern.

In the Renaissance silk, figured on Plate 33, and in all such turned-over designs planned upon the diamond, hexagon, or ogee, one-half the labour of designing and card-cutting is saved. Naturally, the nineteenth century manufacturer has not been slow to adopt a plan so obviously economical. It has been said, that the idea of reversing a pattern owes its origin to the circumstance that you may double a sheet of paper, and so, with one action, cut out the two sides of it. If that is not so, it well might be—except that, probably, reversed patterns were common long before paper was. Very possibly it is derived

from the practice of folding or doubling. One may put together, for example, several sheets of veneer, or even several planks, and, with one action of the saw, fret all of them alike. That facility gave rise at all events to Boulle's characteristic inlay patterns;\* and in the balconies of Swiss châlets one still sees a very effective kind of pierced pattern-work, which is accounted for in a similar way.†

Bands or stripes of different colours are so common in Eastern curtains, blankets, &c., because they can be so easily woven.‡ Even in more elaborate silk and other designs, certain of the colours are very often distributed band-wise. The variety of colour so obtained, is obviously due to the ease with which the weaver can change his shuttle.

At the same time, economy is thus often effected. If in such a design as that on Plate 34 the flowers were meant to appear in gold, or only the eyes of the flowers, the gold thread need only be used in the bands where the flowers or eyes actually occur. You have but to look at the back of any

\* 'The Planning of Ornament,' plate 14.

† 'The Application of Ornament,' plate 30.

‡ 'The Application of Ornament,' plate 20.









old piece of many-coloured silk damask to see the changes of the shuttle very plainly marked. The aim of the designer is usually to disguise them more or less in his pattern. But in the early days of silk weaving the unsophisticated artist had no fear of a horizontal line. In such a pattern as the Sicilian silk in Plate 20, he would boldly make the various bands of animals in various colours. He would sometimes even carry bands of colour straight *across* the animals, regardless of their shape. And the effect of this rough-and-ready proceeding, in the silk itself, certainly justifies him.\*

In early examples of weaving both the turning over of the pattern, and the banded arrangement of the colour are very frequent; indeed, so much so, as to form quite marked features in the design of the eleventh and following centuries, whether Sicilian or Italian. (It was from Sicily, you know, that the art of weaving was introduced into Italy.)

Designers would be the more ready to adopt, and to adhere to, the plan suggested by the loom, in that the horizontal line, due to

\* 'The Application of Ornament,' Plate 20.

it, was in no way injurious to the effect of a fabric meant to fall in folds. The dim vertical line, which was likely to occur from the turning over, was calculated to lose itself in the more strongly marked verticality of the folds ; so also the horizontal band emphasised by the change of the shuttle had an absolute value in marking the fulness of the hangings.

In flat decoration the horizontal band is less unobjectionable ; and it is for that reason that so many of the wall-paper patterns, borrowed or stolen from good old stuffs—by their stripes you shall know them—are altogether unsatisfactory on the wall. To me, horizontal stripes usually suggest the ample hanging, and seem to want the folds.

The bold and beautiful effect of such a damask pattern as that in Plate 35 would be lost if it were rendered in flat decoration, especially without the charm of the texture of the stuff : those waving lines and bands of big rosettes would be unendurable. That pattern, by the way, although it actually works on the principle of the parallelogram—was obviously arrived at by carrying a broad horizontal band of rosettes across a series of waved upright lines.

Many an admirable textile pattern, suitable in all respects but that of its marked horizontal lines, is inapplicable to flat decoration, whether in the shape of silk, or chintz, or wall paper.

Some persons appear to be of opinion that, a pattern (according to Dr. Johnson) being "something to be copied," design consists therefore in copying what has been done before. That is all very well so far as concerns the definition of the word pattern; but how about the meaning of the word design? I would go against the lexicographer, and say: *not every* pattern is an "exemplar."

In adapting a design, from one material to use in another, it is not enough to copy the original: it needs to be translated; which translation is not so easy, but that an artist gifted with any invention of his own, will find it, on the whole, better worth while to say what it is in him to say for himself, and not go on harping on the old, old tunes, melodious though they be.

The most perplexing thing to us just now is that we are asked to design, to-day under these conditions, to-morrow under those. We have no traditions and no style. Our

consolation is that in the very variety of the efforts demanded of us there is relief of a kind : and in the presence of difficulties our ingenuity, if we have any, is excited. The more difficult the conditions, the more they provoke solution. A designer must have in him something of pugnacity ; he must enjoy attacking a tough problem. Indeed he proves himself a designer, not when he has somehow or other arrived at a design, but inasmuch as out of unpromising material and untoward circumstances he can contrive a thing of beauty.

A SELECTION OF  
WORKS ON DECORATIVE ART

PUBLISHED BY

B. T. BATSFORD, 94 HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON.

MR. DAY'S TEXT BOOKS OF ORNAMENTAL DESIGN.

Approved by the Science and Art Department.

*Some Principles of Every-Day Art: Introductory*  
Chapters on the Arts not Fine. In great part re-written from 'Every-Day Art,' and containing nearly all the original illustrations; forming a Prefatory Volume to the Series. Second Edition, revised, with further illustrations. Crown 8vo, cloth, 3s. 6d.

*The Anatomy of Pattern.* Third Edition. With  
36 full-page Illustrations. Crown 8vo, cloth, 3s. 6d.

*The Planning of Ornament.* Third Edition. With  
41 full-page Illustrations. Crown 8vo, cloth, 3s. 6d.

*The Application of Ornament.* Third Edition. With  
48 full-page Illustrations, and others in the Text. Crown 8vo, cloth,  
3s. 6d.

*Ornamental Design; comprising the above Three*  
Works. Handsomely bound in one volume. Cloth gilt, gilt top, 10s. 6d.

*Nature in Ornament.* Second Edition, revised.  
With 123 Plates, and 192 Illustrations in the Text. Thick crown 8vo,  
cloth gilt, 12s. 6d.

*Renaissance Architecture and Ornament in Spain.*  
A Series of Examples selected from the purest executed between the  
years 1500-1560. By ANDREW N. PRENTICE, Architect. 60 plates,  
reproduced by photo-lithography and photo process from the drawings  
made by the author during recent visits to Spain. With descriptive  
text. Folio, handsomely bound in cloth, gilt, 2l. 10s.

*A Handbook of Ornament, with 300 Plates* con-  
taining about 3000 Illustrations of the Elements and the Application of  
Decoration to objects, by F. S. MEYER, Professor at the School of  
Applied Art, Karlsruhe. *Second English Edition*, revised by HUGH  
STANNUS, F.R.I.B.A., Lecturer on Applied Art at the National Art  
Schools, South Kensington. 8vo, cloth gilt, 12s. 6d.

"A library, a museum, an encyclopædia, and an art school in one.  
To rival it as a book of reference one must fill a bookcase. The quality  
of the drawings is unusually high, the choice of examples is singularly  
good. The text is well digested. So good a book needs no praise  
. . . It is practically an epitome of a hundred works in design."—*The Studio*.

Approved by the Science and Art Department.

*The Details and Ornaments of the Italian Renaissance.*  
Drawn by J. G. OAKESHOTT, Architect, "Building News" and  
"Aldwinckle" Travelling Student. 40 plates, royal folio, strongly  
bound in cloth, 32s.

*Specimens of Antique Carved Furniture and Woodwork* (English). Measured and Drawn by ARTHUR MARSHALL, A.R.I.B.A. 50 *Photo-lithographed plates* of Examples, with sections, mouldings, and details, and descriptive text, containing numerous other details. Folio, half-bound in calf, published at 3*l.* net, offered at 2*l.* 2*s.* net.

This work is the most complete and valuable that has been issued illustrating old English Carved Woodwork. It is filled with useful details drawn to a large scale, so as to make it invaluable to Wood-carvers.

*Select Furniture in all Styles: a series of 78 Plates*, containing over 350 Designs for Modern Furniture in the Queen Anne, Adams, Chippendale, Sheraton and French Styles, illustrating all kinds of Dining, Drawing-room, Hall, and Bedroom Furniture according to the prevailing taste. Imperial 4to, cloth. Price 25*s.* Compiled by TIMMS & WEBB, from "Furniture and Decoration."

*A Grammar of Japanese Ornament and Design.* Illustrated by 65 *plates*, many in Colours and Gold, representing all Classes of Natural and Conventional Forms, Drawn from the Originals; with Introductory, Descriptive, and Analytical Text. By T. W. CUTLER, F.R.I.B.A. Imperial 4to, in elegant cloth binding, 2*l.* 6*s.*

*Art and Work: as shown in the several Artistic Industries* employed in the use of Marble, Stone and Terra-Cotta, Metal, Wood, and Textile Fabrics; as well as in the various Details associated with Decorative Art. The whole exemplified by 85 Lithographic Drawings. By OWEN W. DAVIS, Architect. Royal 4to, cloth, 1*l.*

*Examples of Decorative Wrought Iron Work of the 17th and 18th Centuries.* Measured and drawn by D. J. EBBETTS. 16 large *photo-lithographic plates*, containing 70 Examples. Folio, boards. Price 12*s.* 6*d.*

*Native Printed Japanese Art Books: a Charming Series* of studies of Birds in most characteristic and life-like attitudes, surrounded with appropriate Foliage and Flowers, by the celebrated Japanese Artist, BAIREI KONO, in Three Books, 8vo, each containing 36 *pages of highly artistic and decorative illustrations printed in tints.* Price 3*s.* 6*d.* each book, or the set of three, 10*s.*

*Japanese Encyclopædia of Design* (Native printed). BOOK I.—Containing over 1500 engraved, curious, and most ingenious *Geometric Patterns* of Circles, Medallions, &c., comprising Conventional Details of Plants, Flowers, Leaves, Petals, also Birds, Fans, Animals, Key Patterns, &c. &c. Price, 2*s.*

BOOK II.—Containing over 6000 most original and effective Designs for Diaper Ornament, giving the base lines to the design, also artistic Miniature Picturesque Sketches. Oblong 12mo. Price 2*s.*

*These books exhibit the varied charm and originality of conception of Japanese Ornament, and form an inexhaustible field of design.*

*Art Foliage for Sculpture and Decoration.* By JAS. K. COLLING. Second Edition, Enlarged and Revised, containing 81 *plates*, with letterpress and numerous woodcuts. Royal 4to, cloth, 18*s.*

*Examples of English Mediæval Foliage and Coloured Decoration.* By JAS. K. COLLING. Taken from Buildings of the Twelfth to the Fifteenth Century. 76 *lithographic plates*, and 79 *woodcut illustrations*, with text. Royal 4to, cloth, gilt top, 18*s.*

*Flat Ornament: a Pattern Book for Designers of* Textiles, Embroideries, Wall Papers, Inlays, &c. &c. 150 *plates*, some printed in Colours, exhibiting upwards of 500 Examples, &c., collected from Various Museums, Churches, Mosques, &c. &c., with some Original Designs for Textile and other Ornament by Dr. Fischbach, Giraud, and others. Imperial 4to, bound, 25*s.*









GETTY CENTER LIBRARY



3 3125 00605 6101



